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Film Adaptation and Its Discontents
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The Literature/Film Reader
Adaptation Studies
Liam Burke Jack Boozer Salem Press Robert Stam Deborah Cartmell Robert Stam Greg Jenkins Christine Geraghty Salem Press Liam Burke Cristina Della Coletta Robert Stam Brian McFarlane Liam Burke Thomas Leitch George Bluestone John C. Tibbetts James M. Welsh Christa Albrecht-Crane

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in the summer of 2000 *x men* surpassed all box office expectations and ushered in an era of unprecedented production of comic book film adaptations this trend now in its second decade has blossomed into hollywood's leading genre from superheroes to spartan warriors the comic book film adaptation offers the first dedicated study to examine how comic books moved from the fringes of popular culture to the center of mainstream film production through in depth analysis industry interviews and audience research this book charts the cause and effect of this influential trend it considers the cultural traumas business demands and digital possibilities that hollywood faced at the dawn of the twenty first century the industry managed to meet these challenges by exploiting comics and their existing audiences however studios were caught off guard when these comic book fans empowered by digital media began to influence the success of these adaptations nonetheless filmmakers soon developed strategies to take advantage of this intense fanbase while codifying the trend into a more lucrative genre the comic book movie which appealed to an even wider audience central to this vibrant trend is a comic aesthetic in which filmmakers utilize digital filmmaking technologies to engage with the language and conventions of comics like never before the comic book film adaptation explores this unique moment in which cinema is stimulated challenged and enriched by the once dismissed medium of comics

authoring a film adaptation of a literary source not only requires a media conversion but also a transformation as a result of the differing dramatic demands of cinema the most critical central

step in this transformation of a literary source to the screen is the writing of the screenplay the screenplay usually serves to recruit producers director and actors to attract capital investment and to give focus to the conception and production of the film project often undergoing multiple revisions prior to production the screenplay represents the crucial decisions of writer and director that will determine how and to what end the film will imitate or depart from its original source authorship in film adaptation is an accessible provocative text that opens up new areas of discussion on the central process of adaptation surrounding the screenplay and screenwriter director collaboration in contrast to narrow binary comparisons of literary source text and film the twelve essays in this collection also give attention to the underappreciated role of the screenplay and film pre production that can signal the primary intention for a film divided into four parts this collection looks first at the role of hollywood s activist producers and major auteurs such as hitchcock and kubrick as they worked with screenwriters to formulate their audio visual goals the second part offers case studies of devil in a blue dress and the sweet hereafter for which the directors wrote their own adapted screenplays considering the variety of writer director working relationships that are possible part iii focuses on adaptations that alter genre time and place and part iv investigates adaptations that alter stories of romance sexuality and ethnicity

novels into film offers a unique look at how a story makes its way from the printed page to the screen

literature and film is a cornucopia of vibrant essays that chart the history and confluence of literature and film it explores in detail a wide and international spectrum of novels and adaptations bringing together the very latest scholarship in the field

adaptations considers the theoretical and practical difficulties surrounding the translation of a text into film and the reverse process the novelisation of films through three sets of case studies the contributors examine the key debates surrounding adaptations whether screen versions of literary classics can be faithful to the text if something as capsulated as jane austens irony can even be captured on film whether costume dramas always of their own time and do adaptations remake their parent text to reflect contemporary ideas and concerns tracing the complex alterations which texts experience between different media adaptations is a unique exploration of the relationship between text and film

a companion to literature in film provides state of the art research on world literature film and the complex theoretical relationship between them 25 essays by international experts cover the most important topics in the study of literature and film adaptations covers a wide variety of topics including cultural thematic theoretical and genre issues discusses film adaptations from the birth of cinema to the present day explores a diverse range of titles and genres including film noir biblical epics and italian and chinese cinema

paring a novel into a two hour film is an arduous task for even the best screenwriters and directors often the resulting movies are far removed from the novel sometimes to the point of being unrecognizable stanley kubrick s adaptations have consistently been among the best hollywood has to offer kubrick s film adaptations of three novels lolita the shining and full metal jacket are

analyzed in this work the primary focus is on the alterations in the characters and narrative structure with additional attention to style scope pace mood and meaning kubrick s adaptations simplify impose a new visuality reduce violence and render the moral slant more conventional instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here

going beyond the process of adaptation geraghty is more interested in the films themselves and how they draw on our sense of recall while a film reflects its literary source it also invites comparisons to our memories and associations with other versions of the original for example a viewer may watch the 2005 big screen production of pride and prejudice and remember austen s novel as well as the bbc s 1995 television movie adaptations also rely on the conventions of genre editing acting and sound to engage our recall elements that many movie critics tend to forget when focusing solely on faithfulness to the written word

with 100 concise essays on significant novels and movie adaptations ranging from classics to contemporary favorites this new salem edition will appeal to students of literature and film not to mention movie lovers from every walk of life this reference work brings value to students and teachers at the high school and undergraduate levels and the essays can be used to complement individual or classroom study

the first study of how the comic book moved to the center of hollywood film production in the twenty first century

adapting fiction into film is as author cristina della coletta asserts a transformative encounter that takes place not just across media but across different cultures in this book della coletta explores what it means when the translation of fiction into film involves writers directors and audiences who belong to national historical and cultural formations different from that of the adapted work in particular della coletta examines narratives and films belonging to italian north american french and argentine cultures these include luchino visconti s adaptation of james m cain s the postman always rings twice federico fellini s version of edgar allan poe s story never bet the devil your head alain corneau s film based on antonio tabucchi s notturno indiano and bernardo bertolucci s take on jorge luis borges s tema del traidor y del héroe in her framework for analyzing these cross cultural film adaptations della coletta borrows from the philosophical hermeneutics of hans georg gadamer and calls for a hermeneutics of estrangement a practice of mediation and adaptation that defines cultures nations selfhoods and their aesthetic achievements in terms of their transformative encounters stories travel to unexpected and interesting places when adapted into film by people of diverse cultures while the intended meaning of the author may not be perfectly reproduced it still holds della coletta argues an equally valid and important intellectual claim upon its interpreters with a firm grasp on the latest developments in adaptation theory della coletta invites scholars of media studies cultural history comparative literature and adaptation studies to deepen their understanding of this critical encounter between texts writers readers and cultural movements

this lively and accessible textbook written by an expert in film studies provides a fascinating introduction to the process and art of literature to film adaptations provides a lively rigorous and clearly written account of key moments in the history of the novel from don quixote and robinson

crusoe up to lolita and one hundred years of solitude includes diversity of topics and titles such as fielding nabokov and cervantes in adaptations by welles kubrick and the french new wave emphasizes both the literary texts themselves and their varied transtextual film adaptations examines numerous literary trends from the self conscious novel to magic realism before exploring the cinematic impact of the movement reinvigorates the field of adaptation studies by examining it through the grid of contemporary theory brings novels and film adaptations into the age of multiculturalism postcoloniality and the internet by reflecting on their contemporary relevance

first systematic theoretical study of the process in which works of literature are transformed into the medium of cinema draws on recent literary and cinema theory

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most books on film adaptation the relation between films and their literary sources focus on a series of close one to one comparisons between specific films and canonical novels this volume identifies and investigates a far wider array of problems posed by the process of adaptation beginning with an examination of why adaptation study has so often supported the institution of literature rather than fostering the practice of literacy thomas leitch considers how the creators of short silent films attempted to give them the weight of literature what sorts of fidelity are possible in an adaptation of sacred scripture what it means for an adaptation to pose as an introduction to rather than a transcription of a literary classic and why and how some films have sought impossibly close fidelity to their sources after examining the surprisingly divergent fidelity claims made by three different kinds of canonical adaptations leitch s analysis moves beyond literary sources to consider why a small number of adapters have risen to the status of auteurs and how illustrated books comic strips video games and true stories have been adapted to the screen the range of films studied from silent shakespeare to sherlock holmes to the lord of the rings is as broad as the problems that come under review

books in motion addresses the hybrid interstitial field of film adaptation the introductory essay

integrates a retrospective survey of the development of adaptation studies with a forceful argument about their centrality to any history of culture any discussion that is of the transformation and transmission of texts and meanings in and across cultures the thirteen especially composed essays that follow organised into four sections headed paradoxes of fidelity authors auteurs adaptation contexts intertexts adaptation and beyond adaptation variously illustrate that claim by problematising the notion of fidelity highlighting the role played by adaptation in relation to changing concepts of authorship and auteurism exploring the extent to which the intelligibility of film adaptations is dependent on contextual and intertextual factors and making a claim for the need to transcend any narrowly defined concept of adaptation in the study of adaptation discussion ranges from adaptations of established classics like a tale of two cities frankenstein henry v le temps retrouvé mansfield park pride and prejudice the dead or wuthering heights to contemporary popular texts films like bridget jones s diary fools the governess high fidelity the hours the orchid thief adaptation the work of doris dörrie the first harry potter novel film or the adaptations made by alfred hitchcock stanley kubrick and walt disney this book will appeal to both a specialised readership and to those accessing the dynamic field of adaptation studies for the first time

spanning comedy drama film noir science fiction westerns action adventure suspense and children s literature this book offers a detailed survey of adaptations of film adaptations of novels

from examinations of francis ford coppola s apocalypse now to alfred hitchcock s vertigo the literature film reader issues of adaptation covers a wide range of films adapted from other sources the first section presents essays on the hows and whys of adaptation studies and subsequent sections highlight films adapted from a variety of sources including classic and popular literature drama biography and memoir the last section offers a new departure for adaptation studies suggesting that films about history often a separate category of film study can be seen as adaptations of records of the past the anthology concludes with speculations about the future of adaptation studies several essays provide detailed analyses of films in some cases discussing more than one adaptation of a literary or dramatic source such as the manchurian candidate the quiet american and romeo and juliet other works examined include moby dick the house of mirth dracula and starship troopers demonstrating the breadth of material considered for this anthology although many of the essays appeared in literature film quarterly more than half are original contributions chosen for their readability these essays avoid theoretical jargon as much as possible for this reason alone this collection should be of interest to not only cinema scholars but to anyone interested in films and their source material ultimately the literature film reader issues of adaptation provides an excellent overview of this critical aspect of film studies

the volume takes as its starting point the assumption that adapters cannot simply transpose or transfer one particular text from one medium to another they must interpret re work and re imagine the precursor text in order to choose the various meanings and sensations they find most compelling or most cost effective then they create scenes characters plot elements etc that match their interpretation these very relationships are the subject matter this collection seeks to explore poststructural theory is an ideal place to begin a rigorous and theoretically sound investigation of

adaptation as adaptation studies adopts a poststructuralist lens and defines this richer notion of intertextuality some of its key assumptions will change adaptation scholars will recognize that all film adaptations are intertextual by definition multivocal by necessity and adaptive by their nature

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